

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 015934
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:STESCUDERO:HM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 015934

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT OF FOREIGN MINISTER-LEVEL TALKS ON
NAMIBIA

1. BEGIN SECRET. BRITISH HAVE INFORMED US THAT JANUARY 19
EDITION OF THE RAND DAILY MAIL CARRIES FRONT PAGE STORY THAT
THE FIVE ARE PREPARING TO INVITE BOTHA TO NEW YORK TO MEET
WITH THE WESTERN FIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS. WE WISH TO AVOID
SECRET

SECRET

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CONFIRMING THIS STORY PENDING FINAL DECISION TO GO AHEAD
WITH AN INVITATION AND A REACTION FROM THE PARTIES TO AN
INVITATION. THEREFORE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PROVIDED TO
DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN JANUARY 19. POSTS MAY USE SAME
GUIDANCE ON AN "IF ASKED" BASIS ONLY. END SECRET.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. Q. ANY COMMENT ON THE STORY THAT

THE WESTERN FIVE WILL INVITE BOTHA TO MEET WITH THEM ON
NAMIBIA?

A. WE HAVE BEEN EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEW ROUND OF
TALKS IN NEW YORK BETWEEN THE WESTERN CONTACT GROUP AND THE
PARTIES FOR SOME TIME, BUT NO FINAL DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE
ON THE TIMING OR LEVEL OF SUCH TALKS. WE CANNOT COMMENT ON
SPECULATIVE STORIES OF THE KIND CONTAINED IN THE RAND DAILY
MAIL. END UNCLASSIFIED. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 20 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
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Drafter: STESCUDERO:HM
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780139/aaaabgvh.tel
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